Touts in railway reservation office in Madras

5578. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many touts, unauthorised agents and anti-social elements were arrested by the Railway Protection Force and other agencies in Madras since the summer rush began;

(b) how many tickets, cash, reservation forms etc. were recovered from them;

(c) whether any railway reservation employees were found in league with these touts, unauthorised agents, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any RPF Cell and other intelligence cell has been posted at the Madras reservating counters to identify and remove touts and agents from Reservation terminals;

(e) if so, the detaills thereof:

(f) whether any senior official has been assigned to coordinate the anti-tout and other operation at Madras. if so, the details thereof with designation;

(g) whether Government make public announcement so that harassed public are able to seek assistance of the concerned official; and

(h) if the answer to parts (f) and (g) above be in the negative, what steps are being taken to weed out this menace immediately?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) From January to April this year, 95 persons were arrested, 16 tickets of the value Rs. 9,983/- seized and a penalty of Rs. 39,738/- realised from them.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. A Spec: squad consisting of one ASI and five Constables in plain clothes is detailed at Madras Reservation Complex.

(f) Yes, Sir. In view of heavy summer rush, a scheme called 'SUMMER RUSH SCHEME' has been implemented from 4.4.95. Two officers with 44 personnel from RPF are pressed into service both at Madras Central and Madras Egmore Stations for this purpose.

(g) Periodical announcements are being made through Public Address System and close circuit T. V. at Madras Central and Madras Egmore stations cautioning the public not to buy tickets from touts and anti-social elements and also requesting public to seek assistance of concerned officials in case of any harassment by touts and other anti-social elements.

(h) Does not arise.

Electrification of Rail Routes in Madhya Pradesh

5579. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be plesaed to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans for the electrification of rail routes in Madhya Pradesh during 1995-96; and

(b) if so, how many route kilometres of electrification is likely to be accomplished during the said period, in the State?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) 2741 Route kilometres of track have allready been electrified in Madhya Pradesh. There is no proposal to electrify any other route/section in Madhya Pradesh at present.